

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of communication in a data processing system, said method comprising:

at a requestor, buffering a request in an entry of a request queue;

transmitting the request to a recipient for servicing; and

removing the request from the entry of the request queue without receipt of any indication that the request has been serviced.

2. The method of Claim 1, and further comprising transmitting a status signal from the recipient to the requestor if requests cannot be received by the recipient.

3. The method of Claim 2, wherein removing the request comprises removing the request after an interval of at least a latency of said status signal if said status signal is not received during said interval.

1 4. The method of Claim 3, in response to receipt of
2 said status signal during said interval, retransmitting
3 the request.

1 5. The method of Claim 1, wherein transmitting the
2 request comprises transmitting a plurality of requests
3 including the request for which no request response has
4 been received, wherein said plurality of requests
5 includes a number of requests greater than a number of
queue entries for buffering requests at said requestor.

6. The method of Claim 1, and further comprising:

servicing the request and buffering a request
response in a queue entry in the recipient; and

transmitting the request response to a response
receiver and removing the request response from the queue
entry in the recipient.

1 7. The method of Claim 1, wherein transmitting the
2 request comprises transmitting the request to a memory
3 device.

1 8. A requestor for a data processing system, said
2 requestor comprising:

3 a request queue having at least one entry
4 storing a request; and

5 a request controller that transmits the request
6 to a recipient for servicing and removes the request from
7 the entry of the request queue without receipt of any
8 indication that the request has been serviced.

9. The requestor of Claim 8, wherein the request
controller includes means for receiving a status signal
from a recipient that indicates requests cannot be
received by the recipient.

10. The requestor of Claim 9, wherein the request
controller removes the request after an interval of at
least a latency of said status signal if said status
signal is not received during said interval.

11. The requestor of Claim 10, wherein the request
controller retransmits the request in response to receipt
of said status signal during said interval.

1 12. The requestor of Claim 1, wherein the request
2 controller transmits a plurality of requests from said
3 request queue for which no request response has been
4 received, and wherein said plurality of requests includes
5 a number of requests greater than a number of queue
6 entries in said request queue.

1 13. A data processing system, comprising:

2 a requestor in accordance with Claim 8; and
3
4 said recipient.

1 14. The data processing system of Claim 1, wherein the
2 recipient comprises a memory device.

3 15. The requestor of Claim 14, wherein the requestor
4 forms at least a portion of a processor complex.

1 16. The data processing system of Claim 13, and further
2 comprising a response receiver to which said recipient
3 transmits request responses.

1 17. The data processing system of Claim 16, wherein:

2 the response receiver includes priority logic
3 that outputs an imprecise priority signal indicating at
4 least one preferred type of request response; and

5 the recipient comprises an arbiter that selects
6 requests responses for transmission to the response
7 receiver at least partially in response to the priority
8 signal.

18. The data processing system of requestor of Claim 16,
wherein the response receiver includes means for
transmitting a status signal to the recipient if request
responses cannot be received by the recipient.

19. The data processing system of Claim 18, wherein the
recipient includes a plurality of queue entries for
buffering request responses and a recipient controller,
4 wherein the recipient controller removes a transmitted
5 request response from the plurality of queue entries
6 after an interval of at least a latency of said status
7 signal if said status signal is not received during said
8 interval.

1 20. The data processing system of Claim 19, wherein the
2 recipient controller retransmits the request response in
3 response to receipt of said status signal during said
interval.